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STATE FOR IO/UNP ANDREW MORRISON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/20/2019
TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [KPAL](#) [IS](#) [SY](#) [LE](#) [AS](#)
SUBJECT: AUSTRALIA WILL VOTE AGAINST MOST ANTI-ISRAELI UNGA
RESOLUTIONS

REF: STATE 118799

Classified By: Pol/Econ Counselor Edgar D. Kagan; Reasons 1.4 (b) and (c)

¶1. (C/NF) Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Middle East Division Head, Deborah Stokes, told Pol/Econ Counselor November 19 that Australia has traditionally voted with the United States against most of the 21 resolutions heavily biased against Israel including all three of the resolutions on Palestinian-exclusive UN institutions. However, Australia has since 2008 consistently voted for two among the 21: the resolution concerning the applicability of the Geneva Convention in the Occupied Territories and the resolution concerning Israeli Settlements in those same territories.

¶2. (C/NF) During this UNGA session, Australia will vote for a third--the Right of the Palestinian People to Self-Determination on the grounds that it is in line with the Australian policy of support for the two-state solution. Australia has advised partners (including Israel) of this change. On all other resolutions, Australia will continue to vote with the U.S. and to urge other nations to vote or abstain on anti-Israeli resolutions.

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